

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02946 271422Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----272213Z 012441 /73 S
R 271326Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5893
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 2946

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, SA, LE, IS
SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED ARMS TRANSFER TO LEBANON

REF: STATE 32937

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL WE APPROACHED THE MFA AND REQUESTED THAT AN EMBASSY OFFICER WE PERMITTED TO SEE THE GRENADES AND EXPLOSIVES TAKEN FROM TWO PALESTINIANS LAST AUGUST. (IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE TWO WERE APPREHENDED CROSSING THE DEAD SEA AND, IN THE ENSUING FIRE FIGHT, ONE WAS KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED AND CAPTURED.) WE EXPLAINED TO THE MFA THAT, IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF UNAUTHORIZED TRANSFER OF U.S.-SUPPLIED ARMS, IT WAS NECESSARY FOR AN AMERICAN OFFICER TO SEE THE ITEMS AND TO VERIFY THE SPECIFIC SERIAL NUMBERS.

2. WHILE THE MFA HAD NO DIFFICULTY WITH OUR REQUEST AND INDICATED THAT IT WAS A REASONABLE PROCEDURE, THERE WAS A LONG DELAY BEFORE WE RECEIVED ANY RESPONSE IN SPITE OF A NUMBER OF REMINDERS TO THE MINISTRY. IT WAS NOT UNTIL APRIL 13 THAT WE RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM THE NATIONAL POLICE IN
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RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRIES. ON APRIL 25 THE ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE CALLED ON A MR. BOCHNER OF THE SPECIAL DUTIES BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL POLICE IN JERUSALEM. HE WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EQUIPMENT WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM THE TWO TERRORISTS, WHICH INCLUDED SEVEN HAND GRENADES AND 23 BLOCKS (560 GRAMS EACH) OF C-4

EXPLOSIVE (DEMOLITION CHARGES). BOCHNER SHOWED A/ARMA ONLY TWO GRENADES AND TWO BLOCKS OF EXPLOSIVES AND EXPLAINED THAT THE OTHER ITEMS HAD BEEN EXPLODED. THE TWO GRENADES AND THE TWO BLOCKS OF EXPLOSIVES BORE THE LOT NUMBERS LISTED IN PARA FOUR OF REFTTEL. INCLUDED IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CAPTURED EQUIPMENT WERE PERSONAL WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT, THREE PIECES OF DETONATOR CORD, FIVE ELECTRICAL DETONATORS (WHICH BOCHNER DESCRIBED AS OF SOVIET MANUFACTURE), AND 15 MECHANICAL DETONATORS.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MASS, SA, LE, IS
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